
Borough of



Stalybridge

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

1949



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BOROUGH OF STALYBRIDGE.

COMMITTEES

(December, 1949).

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

| | | |
|------------------------|---------|---------------------|
| Chairman | - - - - | Councillor A. Allen |
| Deputy Chairman | - - | Councillor Grundy |
| The Mayor (Ex-Officio) | - | Alderman Harris |
| Alderman Wilson | | Alderman Porter |
| Councillor Buckley | | Councillor Stanley |
| „ Clegg | | „ Storrs |
| „ Gillott | | „ Walton |
| „ Ingham | | „ Whelan |
| „ Redford | | „ White |
| Councillor Wynroe. | | |



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your consideration my second Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department, during the year 1949. For the whole of this period the National Health Service Act was in operation and although certain services transferred to the Cheshire County Council were no longer administered by the Borough, liaison was obtained at both Committee and Official level, through representation on one hand and directly, because of my dual appointment on the other. The Ministry of Health have requested that information about the Divisional Health Services be given in this report and in order to comply I have included extracts from my annual report to the Divisional Health Committee.

There has been a gradual fall in the death rate during the last ten year's and this year's figure of 14.36 per thousand of the population is the lowest during this period. The infantile mortality rate, an important index of social circumstances, is 28.79 which is the lowest ever recorded and is appreciably lower than last year's rate of 40.87. The birth rate of 17.04 is higher than that of the whole country—a reversal of the position of last year, and there were no deaths ascribed to childbirth. It is interesting to note that there have been no maternal deaths in the Borough since 1946.

There were no major epidemics during the year, and one minor outbreak only of food poisoning caused by imported tinned meat. An investigation was made into the water supply in a rural part of the town and the wheels set in motion for an improvement to be affected by taking the town's water supply to that area.

As in the last few years so this year also a good deal of work has been done by the Department on sub-standard houses as will be seen in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's section of the report, the work being made difficult by the shortage of new houses available.

I would like to end by thanking the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their help and co-operation so willingly given at all times and the members of the staff for their unfailing support throughout the year.

Yours obediently,

T. HOLME, Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

THOMAS HOLME, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

SANITARY INSPECTORS.

CHIEF : J. NORRIS, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

ADDITIONAL : J. F. H. WALTON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(resigned 31/3/49).

C. F. SPENCER, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
(appointed 2/5/49).

CLERICAL.

CHIEF CLERK : A. CLOUGH

Miss J. NORTON

Miss D. OLLERENSHAW

Miss E. M. RHODES

J. T. PETRIE

VITAL STATISTICS.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Area (in acres) | 3,190 |
| Population Census, 1931 | 24,831 |
| Population (mid-year, 1949) | 22,420 |
| Rateable Value, 1st April, 1949 | £103,958 |
| Estimated Value of a Penny Rate | £394 |
| No. of Houses in Borough (approx.)... .. | 7,200 |

| LIVE BIRTHS. | Male | Female | Total | Total |
|--|------|--------|-------|-------|
| Legitimate | 182 | 189 | 371 | } 382 |
| Illegitimate | 6 | 5 | 11 | |
| Live birth rate per 1000 population... | ... | ... | 17.04 | |

| STILL BIRTHS. | Male | Female | Total | Total |
|---|------|--------|-------|-------|
| Legitimate | 8 | 4 | 12 | } 14 |
| Illegitimate | — | 2 | 2 | |
| Still birth rate per 1000 live and still births ... | | | 35.35 | |

| DEATHS. | Male | Female | Total |
|---------------------------------------|------|--------|-------|
| All causes | 145 | 177 | 322 |
| Death rate per 1000 population | ... | ... | 14.36 |

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.

| | |
|--|--------|
| Deaths of infants under one year per 1000 live births ... | 28.79. |
| Neo Natal death rate (deaths of infants under 1 month per 1000 total Births) | 20.94 |

PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE DISTRICT.

The Borough of Stalybridge is roughly triangular in shape and is bordered on the south by the Municipal Boroughs of Dukinfield and Hyde. To the north west is situated the Municipal Borough of Ashton-u-Lyne and on the north east lie Mossley and Mottram. The River Tame, which at this point is the boundary between the geographical counties of Lancashire and Cheshire, divides the town, the northern half, therefore, lying in Lancashire, whilst the southern half lies in Cheshire. For administration purposes the Borough is considered to be in the County of Cheshire.

The Borough is situated on the westerly slopes of the Pennine Chain $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Manchester and although the main portion of the town is built round the River Tame at an approximate height of 400 ft. above sea level, the ground rises to a height of over 1,000 ft. on the eastern boundary.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS.

The inhabitants of the Borough are, in the main, employed in industry. These industries comprise cotton spinning and manufacturing, light engineering works, calico printing and bleach works, woollen mills and other minor industries. Since the end of World War II. there has been little unemployment in the town and figures from the Ministry of Labour show that at the present time there are 56 persons on the Unemployment Register. Although accurate figures are unobtainable there is a large number of married women employed in industry in the town and also a certain amount of foreign labour.

BIRTH RATE.

During the year 382 births were recorded in the Borough of which 188 were males and 194 females, giving a livebirth rate of 17.4 per thousand estimated mid-year population which shows an increase when compared with the rate for 1948 of 1.50. Table I. shows the comparative figures for the rest of the country and Table III. gives the birth rates since the beginning of the century. From this latter table it will immediately be seen that there was a gradual fall until the five year period prior to the outbreak of World War II, since when it rose gradually and reached the peak of 22.45 in 1947.

DEATH RATE.

During the year there were 322 deaths in the Borough of which 145 were males and 177 females, giving a death rate of 14.36 per thousand estimated population which, apart from the average of the five year period 1930—1934 is the lowest experienced by the Borough. In Table I. the death rate is given along with death rates for the country as a whole and Table III. gives the death rates for the last 48 years. In 1949 heart disease was by far the commonest cause of death, the next in importance being chest conditions and intra-cranial vascular lesions. These three conditions were responsible for over half (58%) of the deaths in the Borough.

The infantile mortality rate during the year was 28.79 per thousand livebirths as against 40.87 in 1948 and 52.63 in 1947. This represents a mortality rate which is lower than that of England and Wales and it will be seen from the Graph on page 15 is the lowest ever recorded in the Borough. When it is compared with the figure of 250 for the year 1900 it will be appreciated how much Medical Science has achieved in the comparatively short space of 50 years, and in which the Maternity and Child Welfare Services have played no small part. An analysis of the ages and causes of deaths under one year is included in the report and shows that the majority of deaths were in the first month of life and that in 7 of these there was a condition of the child (either

a congenital defect or premature birth) which predisposed to its death. In fact, in only two cases was the child healthy at birth, but it is felt that with greater ante natal supervision and increasing medical knowledge a mother should be able to carry her baby until term and be delivered of a normal healthy child. This is only one of the reasons why it is essential that complete and adequate liaison between Regional Hospital Board, Local Authority and General Practitioners be maintained, as otherwise there is a danger of the good work done by Local Authorities through the Maternity and Child Welfare Services being negated and the continuity of supervision of expectant mothers, so important in this field, being broken down.

TABLE I.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1949 (Provisional figures).

| | Rate per 1000 Total Population. | | Annual Death-rate per 1000 Population. | | | | | | | | | | Rate per 1000 Related Births. | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------|--|----------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|------------|------------|--|------------|--|--------------------------------------|---------|--------|------|
| | Live Births. | Still-births. | All causes | Enteric Fever. | Whooping Cough. | Diphtheria. | Tuberculosis | Influenza. | Small-pox. | Acute Poliomyelitis & polioencephalitis | Pneumonia. | Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under two years). | All Causes under one year of age. | | | |
| England and Wales..... | 16.7 | 0.39 | 11.7 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.45 | 0.15 | — | 0.01 | 0.51 | 3.0 | 32 | | | |
| 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London | 18.7 | 0.47 | 12.5 | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.00 | 0.52 | 0.15 | — | 0.02 | 0.56 | 3.8 | 37 | | | |
| 148 Smaller Towns (1931 Resident Populations, 25,000—50,000) | 18.00 | 0.40 | 11.6 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.42 | 0.14 | — | 0.02 | 0.49 | 2.4 | 30 | | | |
| London | 18.5 | 0.37 | 12.2 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 0.52 | 0.11 | — | 0.01 | 0.59 | 1.7 | 29 | | | |
| Stalybridge | 17.04 | 0.49 | 14.36 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.45 | 0.40 | — | 0.00 | 0.71 | 2.62 | 28.79 | | | |
| Maternal mortality rate for England and Wales per 1000 Total Births | | | | | | | | | | | | | Puerperal Sepsis. | Others. | Total. | |
| " " Stalybridge | | | | | | | | | | | | | .. | 0.11 | 0.87 | 0.98 |
| " " " " | | | | | | | | | | | | | .. | — | — | — |

TABLE II.

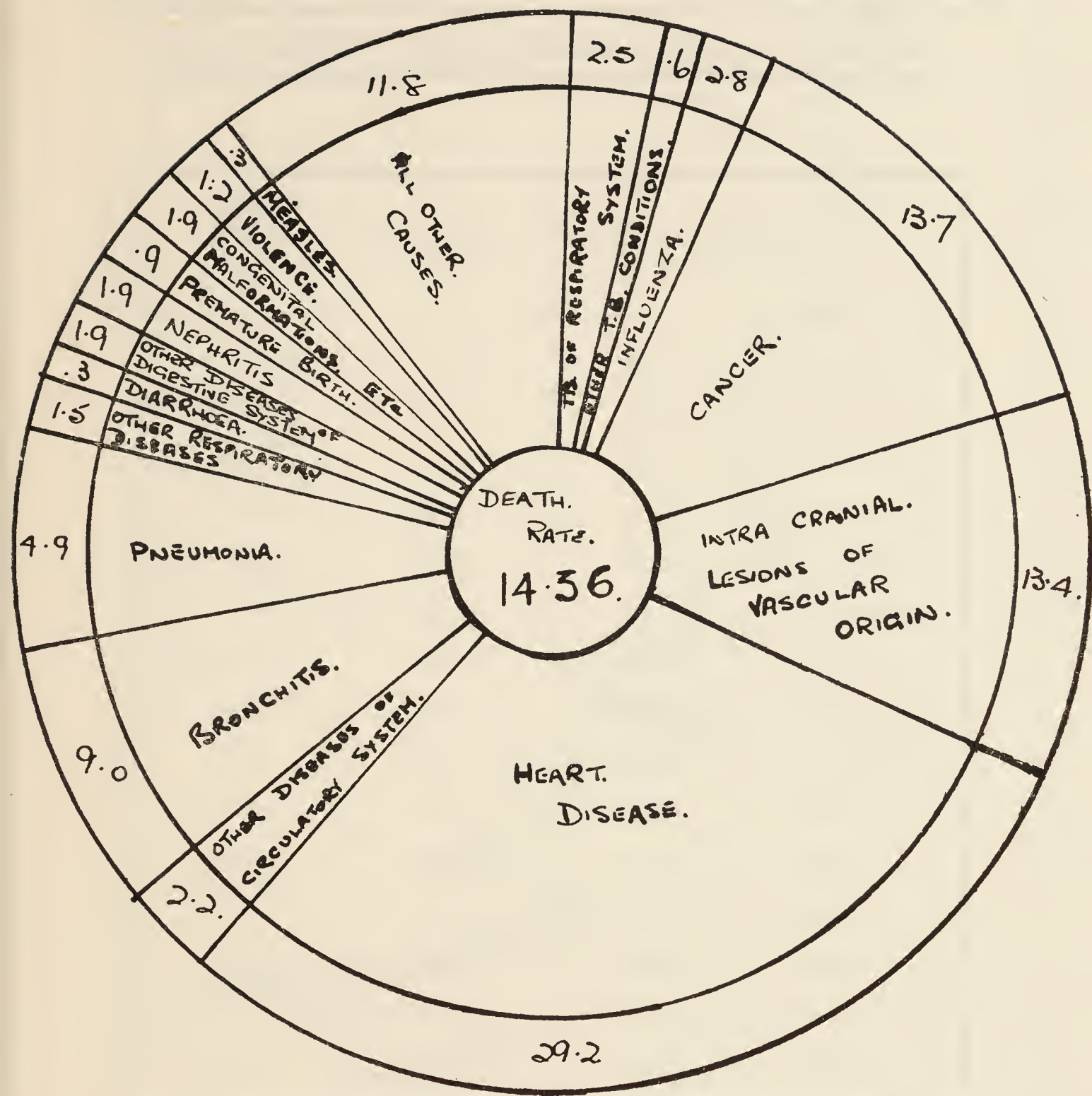
REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN

FOR THE YEAR 1949.

CAUSES OF DEATH

| No. | GROUP CAUSE OF DEATH. | M | F. | Total |
|------|---|-----|-----|-------|
| 1. | Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers | .. | .. | .. |
| 2. | Cerebro-spinal Fever | .. | .. | .. |
| 3. | Scarlet Fever | .. | .. | .. |
| 4. | Whooping Cough | .. | .. | .. |
| 5. | Diphtheria | .. | .. | .. |
| 6. | Tuberculosis of respiratory system | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| 7. | Other forms of Tuberculosis | .. | 2 | 2 |
| 8. | Syphilitic disease | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 9. | Influenza | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| 10. | Measles | 1 | .. | 1 |
| 11. | Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis | .. | .. | .. |
| 12. | Acute infectious encephalitis | .. | .. | .. |
| 13m | Cancer buccal cavity & oesophagus (Males only) | 3 | .. | 3 |
| 13 f | Cancer of uterus | .. | .. | .. |
| 14. | Cancer of stomach and duodenum | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 15. | Cancer of breast..... | .. | 6 | 6 |
| 16. | Cancer of other sites | 15 | 15 | 30 |
| 17. | Diabetes | .. | 1 | 1 |
| 18. | Intra-cranial vascular lesions | 16 | 27 | 43 |
| 19. | Heart disease | 36 | 58 | 94 |
| 20. | Other diseases of circulatory system | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| 21. | Bronchitis | 16 | 13 | 29 |
| 22. | Pneumonia | 8 | 8 | 16 |
| 23. | Other respiratory diseases | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 24. | Ulceration of stomach or duodenum | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 25. | Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) | 1 | .. | 1 |
| 26. | Appendicitis | .. | .. | .. |
| 27. | Other digestive diseases | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| 28. | Nephritis | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| 29. | Puerperal and post abortive sepsis..... | .. | .. | .. |
| 30. | Other maternal causes | .. | .. | .. |
| 31. | Premature birth | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 32. | Congenital malformations, etc..... | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| 33. | Suicide | .. | .. | .. |
| 34. | Road traffic accidents | 2 | .. | 2 |
| 35. | Other violent causes | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 36. | All other causes | 15 | 15 | 30 |
| | ALL CAUSES. | 145 | 177 | 322 |

CHART. 1.



PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

EXPRESSED AS PERCENTAGES

OF TOTAL DEATHS.

1949.

TABLE III.
BIRTH, DEATH & INFANTILE MORTALITY
RATES IN THE BOROUGH FROM 1900.

| Year | Birth Rate | Death Rate | Infantile Mortality Rate |
|-----------|------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| 1900 - 04 | 24.58 | 20.1 | 210 |
| 1905 - 09 | 23.01 | 18.63 | 193.2 |
| 1910 - 14 | 21.63 | 17.92 | 165.48 |
| 1915 - 19 | 16.83 | 17.75 | 130.9 |
| 1920 - 24 | 18.56 | 15.08 | 114.9 |
| 1925 - 29 | 14.97 | 14.80 | 81.1 |
| 1930 - 34 | 13.47 | 13.78 | 73.80 |
| 1935 - 39 | 12.94 | 15.02 | 54.6 |
| 1940 - 44 | 15.42 | 15.11 | 60.57 |
| 1945 | 17.64 | 15.6 | 46.70 |
| 1946 | 20.18 | 15.42 | 59.49 |
| 1947 | 22.55 | 15.11 | 52.63 |
| 1948 | 16.50 | 14.43 | 40.87 |
| 1949 | 17.04 | 14.36 | 28.79 |

GRAPH I.

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE — STALYBRIDGE (1900-1949)

STALYBRIDGE
 ——— INFANTILE MORTALITY per 1000 live - births.
 ENGLAND AND WALES
 --- INFANTILE MORTALITY per 1000 live - births.

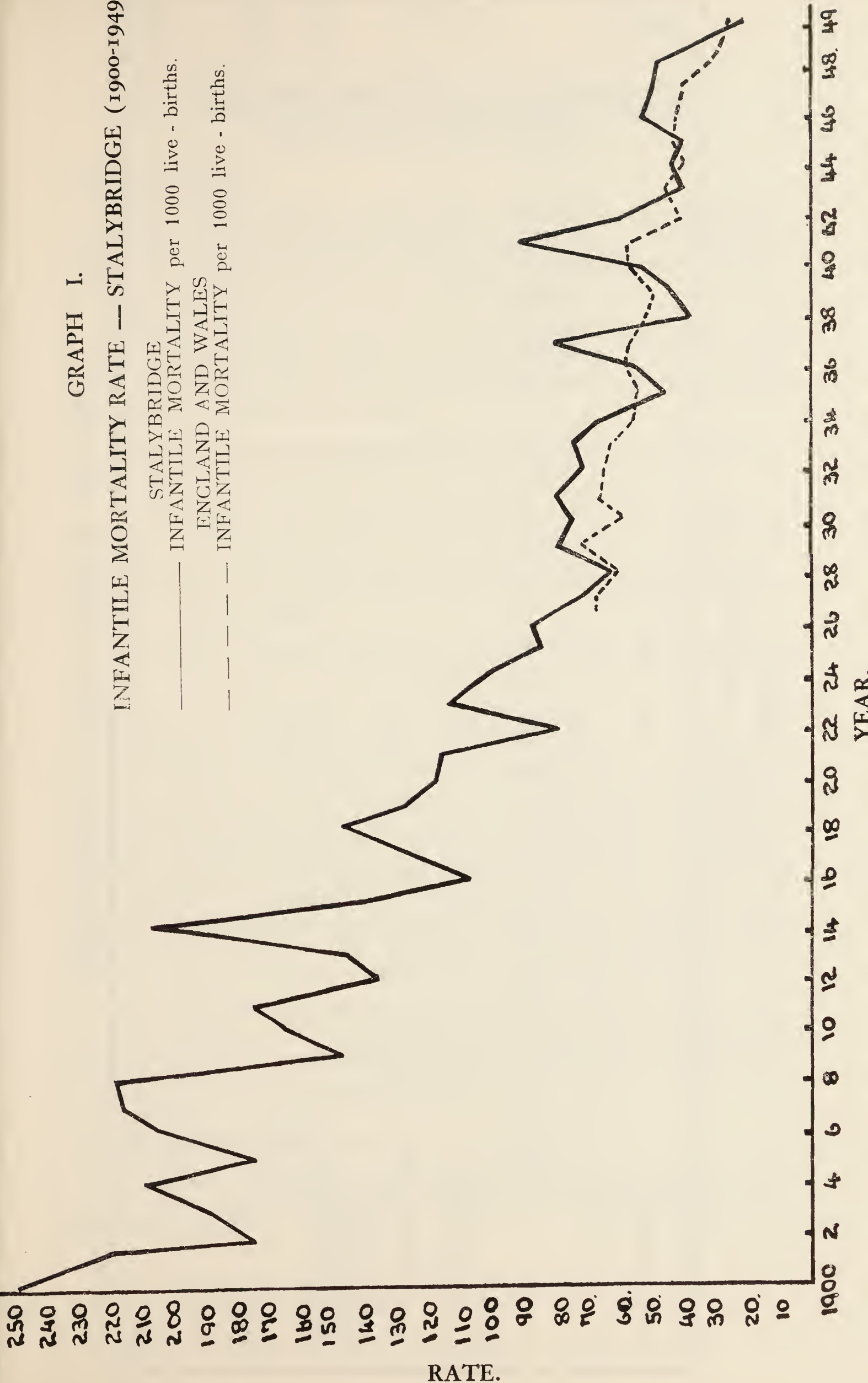


TABLE IV.
INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1949.

| Cause of Death | AGE (MONTHS) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Total all Ages | Rate 1000 Live Births | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | 0-1 | | 1-2 | | 2-3 | | 3-4 | | 4-5 | | 5-6 | | 6-7 | | 7-8 | | 8-9 | | 9-10 | | 10-11 | | 11-12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Diarrhoea (under 2 yrs.) | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. 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Neo Natal Rate 20.94 compared with that for 1948 27.25.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

BACTERIOLOGY.

Swabs and samples for examination were sent to the Pathological Department, District Infirmary, Ashton-u-Lyne and to the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester. During the year 15 throat swabs were examined and all gave negative results.

5 specimens of faeces, 1 of urine and 1 of blood were taken in connection with the Salford outbreak of typhoid fever and with the exception of the blood sample, which showed the presence of a small number of *S.typhi*, the results were negative.

12 specimens of faeces and 6 of urine were submitted in connection with a suspected water supply, all the results were negative.

4 specimens of faeces were submitted in connection with an outbreak of food poisoning, one sample showed organisms of *staphylococcus aureus*. Also in connection with this outbreak two tins of pork were examined, one tin showed the presence of *staph. aureus*, the second tin gave a negative result.

8 samples of faeces were taken in connection with the notified case of typhoid, all samples returned negative results.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

On October 1st new regulations with regard to the production and handling of milk on the farms came into operation. These regulations made under the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944 and the Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949, transferred the responsibilities for the supervision of milk production from the Local Authorities to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. It is too early yet to dogmatise on the effect of these changes but during the period October, November and December, the supervision of the farms was nothing like what it was when the responsibility rested with the Borough.

Constant supervision and frequent inspections of farms were carried out up to October 1st. During this period 63 visits were made to the farms in the area. 133 samples of milk were taken for investigation and of these 111 proved to be satisfactory.

PASTEURISED MILK.

5 retailers are selling milk in the Borough and tests have been carried out at the Public Health Laboratory for the efficient pasteurisation of their milk.

8 Phosphatase tests have been carried out all of which gave satisfactory results.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The following list of samples, details of which were kindly supplied by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures of the Cheshire County Council, were obtained in the Borough during the year ended 31st December, 1949.

| Nature of Sample | Number obtained | Adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Bacon | 1 | — |
| Butter | 1 | — |
| Bisto | 1 | — |
| Cheese | 1 | — |
| Cooking Fat | 1 | — |
| Flavouring Essence | 1 | — |
| Gelatine (dessert) | 2 | — |
| Ice Cream | 3 | — |
| Margarine | 1 | — |
| Milk | 68 | — |
| Sausage | 2 | — |
| Sugar... .. | 1 | — |
| | <hr/> 83 <hr/> | <hr/> 0 <hr/> |

WATER SUPPLIES.

4 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination and results were returned as follows :—

- 1 sample of the town's water supply was found to be satisfactory.
- 1 sample taken from a small reservoir serving 185 houses in the Millbrook district was satisfactory. This supply is chlorinated.
- 2 samples of the spring water supply serving cottages at Higher Hyde Green were taken, the first gave an unsatisfactory result, whilst the second sample proved to be satisfactory.

The Engineer and Manager of the Ashton-u-Lyne, Stalybridge, Dukinfield (District) Waterworks, Mr. M. T. B. Whitson, reports on the Stalybridge water supplies as follows :—

The quantity and quality of the water have both been satisfactory.

Bacteriological examination of the water - piped supplies

| Type of water | Samples taken | Results. |
|---|---------------|--------------------|
| Raw | None | — |
| Filtered water - taken directly after filtration | 12 | Quite satisfactory |
| Filtered water - tap samples taken at various points in the Borough | 12 | Quite satisfactory |
| Plumbo-solvency. Calcium carbonate added before filtration 16 samples were taken and the results were all satisfactory | | |
| No form of contamination has presented itself | | |
| Population supplied from public watermains - direct to houses 21,900 (estimated) by means of stand pipes - None. | | |

Investigation into the water supply in the Higher Hyde Green area.

An investigation was carried out into the water supply in the Higher Hyde Green area following a report on the incidence of diarrhoea in that locality. It was found that there were six families living in the locality in each of which mild gastro intestinal symptoms had occurred from time to time and of 19 persons only 4 had escaped the infection. The only factor common to these people was the water supply which consisted of a well in the vicinity which was fed by a spring. Bacteriological investigation proved negative and no common organism could be isolated from the inhabitants although one report on a sample of well water showed evidence of faecal contamination. Further investigations demonstrated the fact that the well was definitely liable to surface pollution and in view of this the Public Health Committee recommended that since the well constituted a danger to health the matter be gone into with the Joint Water Board. A meeting of Borough officials and officials of the Joint Water Board was held with a view to taking the town's main supply to the Higher Hyde Green area and negotiations are now proceeding with the Ministry of Health with this object in view.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Incidence of the Main Infectious Diseases
during the period 1945 - 1949.

TABLE V.

| | 1949 | 1948 | 1947 | 1946 | 1945 |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Typhoid Fever | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Poliomyelitis | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Diphtheria | 1 | — | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| Scarlet Fever | 17 | 23 | 8 | 10 | 12 |
| Tuberculosis (all forms) | 18 | 18 | 28 | 20 | 24 |
| Measles | 237 | 91 | 464 | 9 | 171 |
| Whooping Cough | 95 | 75 | 36 | 167 | 60 |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | 25 | 10 | 17 | — | 16 |
| Total | 395 | 217 | 557 | 230 | 289 |

SPECIFIC INFECTIONS.

DIPHTHERIA.

4 cases of Diphtheria were notified, all of which were removed to hospital, 3 of these cases were not confirmed and were subsequently removed from the register. The one confirmed case had not been protected against Diphtheria by immunisation, a point which cannot be overstressed as there is no doubt that immunisation has played a considerable part in protecting children against this disease.

SCARLET FEVER.

17 cases were notified of which 8 were removed to hospital in order to ensure adequate isolation. There seems to be no doubt that there has been a considerable decline in the severity of symptoms from this disease and all the cases notified were of a mild type. In spite of the mildness of Scarlet Fever it is nevertheless most important that every precaution should be taken to prevent its spread.

PNEUMONIA.

Of 22 cases notified during the year there were 16 deaths which shows a very high mortality rate. I feel, however, that these figures are misleading since there must have been many cases of pneumonia which

were not notified, indeed the figures for 1948 showed that although only 4 notifications had been received 11 deaths were recorded as due to this disease.

TYPHOID FEVER.

1 case of Typhoid Fever was notified and removed to hospital during the year. When the case was investigated it was found that the patient had contracted the disease from a 'carrier' in whose house she and her husband were lodgers.

POLIOMYELITIS.

1 case was notified and removed to hospital where it was diagnosed as a non-paralytic form of the disease from which the patient made a complete recovery.

TUBERCULOSIS.

14 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 4 of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis have been notified during the year. 8 people were certified as having died from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 2 from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

TABLE VI.

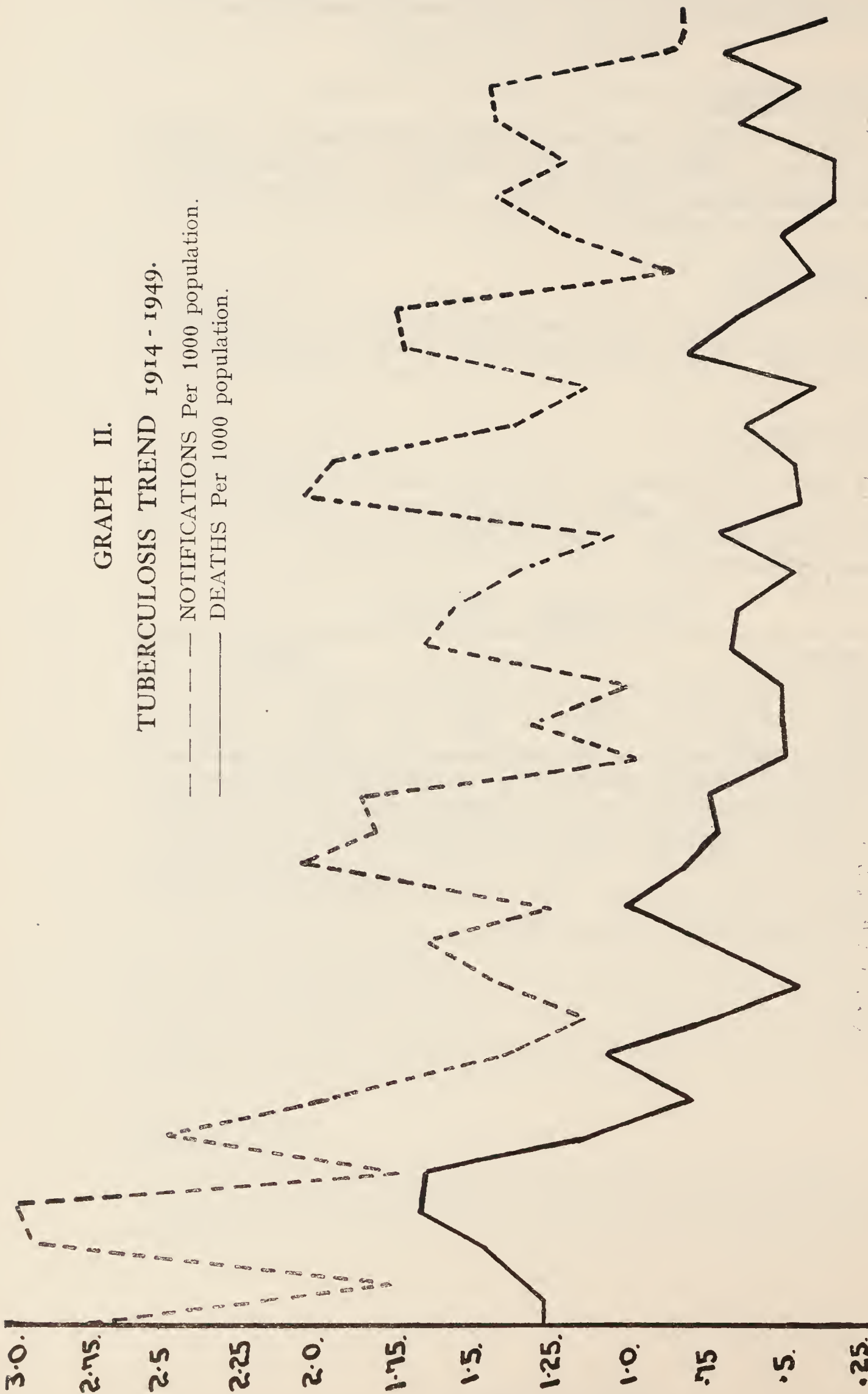
| Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | | Total | |
|-----------|--------|---------------|--------|-------|--------|
| Male | Female | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| 48 | 38 | 24 | 26 | 72 | 64 |

Of the 14 Pulmonary cases 5 were notified after admission to sanatorium, 1 after death, one case was admitted after 60 days, one after 42, one after 23 and one after 11 days, one case left the district immediately after notification and the remaining three were old cases transferred into the Borough The average length of time between notification and admission was 31 days.

GRAPH II.

TUBERCULOSIS TREND 1914 - 1949.

--- NOTIFICATIONS Per 1000 population.
 — DEATHS Per 1000 population.



YEAR.

CANCER.

44 deaths have occurred—a rate of 1.96 per thousand population or 13.7% of the total deaths.

FOOD POISONING.

An outbreak of symptoms indicative of food poisoning was reported to the Department on the 21st November and an immediate investigation took place. In all 7 people were affected out of 9 who had attended a private party. All the food consumed at the party was immediately sent for bacteriological examination together with specimens obtained from the patients and it was eventually discovered the day after the investigation started that the cause of the outbreak was a tin of imported meat. The organism concerned in the poisoning was staphylococcus aureus which must have been introduced into the meat during its manufacture. The co-operation between the Public Health Laboratory and adjoining Local Authorities in this small outbreak proved to be excellent, a most important point when dealing with an epidemic of this kind.

HOUSING.

I am indebted to the Housing Manager for the following figures with which he has supplied me. They refer to the re-housing of families in Corporation Houses and analyse the reasons for removal. There is no doubt that from a Public Health point of view the lack of adequate housing accommodation is proving a serious threat to health not only here but throughout the country and I should prefer to see the number of families re-housed many times the figure of 104 as quoted.

TABLE VII.

RE-HOUSING

| | |
|---|-----|
| Tuberculous cases re-housed | 2 |
| Tuberculous cases awaiting re-housing ... | 9 |
| Medical cases (other than T.B.) re-housed | — |
| Overcrowded families re-housed | 23 |
| Total No. of families re-housed | 104 |

TABLE VIII.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL No. OF FAMILIES RE-HOUSED.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Families in Lodgings | 16 |
| Families Overcrowded | 23 |
| Families in Individual Unfit Houses | 4 |
| Mixed Families | 59 |
| Tuberculous Cases | 2 |
| Total Re-Housed | 104 |

SUPPLEMENT.

National Health Service Act 1948

STALYBRIDGE AND DUKINFIELD HEALTH DIVISION

Extracts from Annual Report submitted
by the Divisional Medical Officer,
and Clerk to the Divisional Health
Committee for the Year 1949

DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman.

5th July, 1948 - July, 1949 - Councillor A. Bown, Dukinfield.

July, 1949, - Dec., 1949 - Councillor Mrs. E. Grundy, Stalybridge.

Deputy Chairman.

5th July, 1948 - July, 1949 - Councillor A. Allen, Stalybridge.

July, 1949 - Dec., 1949 - Councillor W. Cooke, Dukinfield.

Committee.

Council Members representing Stalybridge M.B. on the Divisional Health Committee.

Alderman J. Porter.

Alderman A. Sidebottom.

Alderman H. Slack.

} to 14/6/49.

Councillor A. Allen.

Councillor F. Buckley.

from 15/6/49.

Councillor Mrs. L. M. Gillott.

Councillor Mrs. E. Grundy.

Councillor Mrs. A. Slack.

Councillor A. Wynroe.

from 15/6/49.

Council Members representing the Local Health Authority on the Divisional Health Committee.

Alderman F. W. Radcliffe.

Alderman J. H. I. Radcliffe.

Co-opted Members to the Divisional Health Committee.

Mrs. M. Wynroe.

(Cheshire County Nursing Association)

Mrs. N. Sykes.

(Co-opted by Divisional Health

Councillor Mrs. M. Storrs.

Committee).

STAFF.

Divisional Health Office, 99 Grosvenor Street, Stalybridge.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Clerk to Committee | - Philip W. Musther, A.C.I.S. |
| Divisional Medical Officer | - Thomas Holme, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. |
| Assistant County Medical Officer | - Ena M. Cant, M.B., Ch.B. |
| Chief Clerk | - A. Clough. |
| Clerical Assistants | - Misses J. Norton, D. Ollerenshaw, E. M. Rhodes, J. Petrie. |
| Ambulance Supervisor, Stalybridge | - J. Roebuck. |
| Health Visitors, Stalybridge | - Miss S. A. Watson, Miss E. M. Han- mer, (Resigned October, 1949), Miss B. Sherratt. |
| District Nurses, Stalybridge | - Mrs. N. Nobles, Miss E. Garside, Mrs. E. H. Slater. |
| Midwives, Stalybridge | - Miss N. Kilner, Miss N. Robinson, Mrs. F. Dent, Miss M. Regan. |
| Authorised Officer | - J. Thompson. |
| Physiotherapist | - Mrs. C. Cooke, (Dukinfield only until Oct., 1949. Dukinfield and Staly- bridge, Nov., 1949). Mrs. M. J. Collingwood, (Resigned Sept. 1949. |
| Dental Surgeon | - G. H. Fenton, L.D.S., (resigned Feb., 1949), Miss L. Kippen, L.D.S., part- time basis. |

Specialists

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Ophthalmic Surgeon | - W. E. Lawson, M.B., Ch.B. |
| Orthopaedic Surgeon | - J. L. Mangan, F.R.C.S. |
| Gynaecologist, Stalybridge | - W. E. C. Thomas, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.O.G. |
| Paediatrician | - J. D. Allan, M.D., F.R.C.P. |
| Tuberculous Physician | - J. F. Cotter, L.R.C.P.I., L.R.C.S.I., |
| Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon | - E. M. Innes, F.R.C.S., D.L.O. |

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

This is one of the services which was taken over by the Cheshire County Council on the 'appointed day.' Before 5th July, 1948, the Stalybridge M.B. was an autonomous authority for Maternity and Child Welfare, but the service in Dukinfield M.B. was operated by the County Council.

There are three Welfare Centres in the Division as follows :—

Dukinfield - 212 Astley Street.

Stalybridge - Mechanic's Institute. Wesley Methodist School, Millbrook.

Sessions are held at the following times :—

212 Astley Street - Wednesday and Thursday Mornings and Afternoons.

Millbrook - Alternate Monday afternoons.

Mechanic's Institute - Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons.

MILLBROOK.

The premises used for Clinic purposes are very unsatisfactory for this kind of work and during the year the Divisional Health Committee recommended that a new Welfare Centre be built for the inhabitants of the Millbrook area. Plans are being prepared for the erection of the new centre on the Oakwood Housing Estate, Millbrook.

VOLUNTARY WORKERS.

The Health Visitors, both in Stalybridge and Dukinfield are assisted at each clinic by a Voluntary Committee and we would like to express our thanks for the work they have so willingly and efficiently carried out during the past twelve months.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Total births in the Division - Livebirths | 661 |
| Stillbirths | 23 |
| Total No. of sessions held at the three centres | 320 |
| Total No. of children attending for the 1st time | 481 |
| Total No. of attendances | 11729 |
| No. of examinations made by Medical Officer | 2889 |

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| No. of sessions held | 26 |
| No. of new cases | 96 |
| Total No. of attendances | 259 |

POST-NATAL CLINIC.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| No. of sessions held | 12 |
| No. of new cases | 31 |
| No. of attendances | 47 |

From the above figures it will be seen that there is a marked difference between the ante and post natal examinations over the same period, and it would appear that only about one third of the mothers attend after the baby is born. This is not a very satisfactory state of affairs as it is equally important in order to prevent possible future chronic ill health that a post-natal examination should be made after the birth of the child, and any defects found and remedied.

SPECIALIST CLINICS.

OPHTHALMIC (under 5 years).

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| New cases | 25 |
| Total attendances | 54 |
| New spectacles provided | 16 |

PAEDIATRIC (under 5 years).

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| New cases | 24 |
| Total attendances | 38 |

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT (under 5 years).

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| New cases | 6 |
| Total attendances | 8 |

PHYSIOTHERAPY (under 5 years).

| | |
|--|-----|
| Total attendances for interview by Orthopædic surgeon | 140 |
| Total attendances at Physiotherapist's clinic | 194 |
| Total attendances for U.V.L. treatment | 787 |

DENTAL TREATMENT

| | |
|---|----|
| Ante-natal patients - new cases | 2 |
| " " - attendances | 4 |
| Post-natal patients - new cases | 1 |
| " " - attendances | 1 |
| Children under 5 years - new cases | 32 |
| " " - attendances | 32 |

DAY NURSERIES.

| | |
|---|------|
| Total attendances | 8427 |
| Average attendance per child for 12 months | 227 |
| Average attendance per day | 37 |
| New cases admitted | 14 |
| Waiting list at 31/12/49 | 105 |
| No. of mothers in employment 31/12/49 ... | 40 |
| No. of medical examinations carried out ... | 337 |
| No. of children receiving sunlight treatment | 10 |
| No. of children attending specialist clinics... | — |

FACTORY NURSERIES.

The Cheshire County Council have now become the responsible Local Authority for the registration and supervision of factory nurseries in their area.

In this Division registered nurseries are situated as follows :—

Staley and Millbrook Ltd.

Victor Mill Ltd.

Robert Byrom (Stalybridge) Ltd.

Following the original registration, these factory nurseries have been visited and inspected by your Divisional Medical Officer and at the Victor Mill Day nursery the children have been examined. The other two nurseries employ private practitioners for the examination of the children.

WELFARE FOODS.

(STALYBRIDGE CLINICS ONLY).

Total cost of foods purchased from 14:4:49—31:12:49 £321 : 0 : 0

Total income from foods sold from 1:4:49 — 31:12:49 £449 : 14 : 10

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Vaccinations and immunisations are carried out at the School Clinic, Dukinfield and the Mechanics' Institute, Stalybridge, or, if the parent so wishes, by the patient's own practitioner who can claim a fee on notification. It was felt that the percentage of children protected against Diphtheria was too low and an intensive effort has been and still is being made to improve on the figures. A start was made on visiting schools in order to give booster doses, and during the year the Committee recommended that Whooping Cough vaccine be made available for those mothers who wished it to be given along with the Diphtheria vaccine.

VACCINATIONS 1949 (corrected).

TABLE A.

| Age at 31/12/49 Born in year ... | Under 1 1949 | 1 — 4 1945-48 | 5 — 14 1935-44 | 15 — over Before 1935 | Total |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| Vaccinated | 50 | 24 | 5 | 7 | 86 |
| Re-vaccinated ... | 2 | 1 | — | — | 3 |

69 of the total protected were vaccinated by the medical practitioners of the Division at their own surgeries, the remaining cases were vaccinated at the Divisional Clinics.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

1935 — 1949 (corrected).

The following table shows the total number of children under the age of 15 years protected against diphtheria and the percentage of the total child population protected.

TABLE B.

| Age at 31/12/49 Born in year.... | under 1 1949 | 1 1948 | 2 1947 | 3 1946 | 4 1945 | 5—9 1940- 1944 | 10—14 1935- 1939 | Total under 15 |
|--|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Immunised | 14 | 375 | 412 | 339 | 260 | 1732 | 1703 | 4835 |
| Estimated mid year child pop'ltn. 1949. | 3458 | | | | | 5115 | | 8573 |
| % immunised | 40.48 | | | | | 67.15 | | 56.39 |

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Total No. of children immunised by general practitioners at their own surgeries during 1949 | 251 |
| Total No. of children immunised at Clinics during 1949... | 407 |
| | <hr/> 658 <hr/> |

Of the total number of children immunised during 1949, 274 were immunised with combined Whooping Cough and Diphtheria vaccine, 229 by medical practitioners and 45 at the Clinics. In addition 12 children were immunised at the Clinics against Whooping Cough only.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

This is another of the services which was transferred to the Cheshire County Council on the 'appointed day'. It is a service the demands for which have increased rapidly since the introduction of the National Health Service Act.

A sitting case car for the purpose of taking ambulatory patients who could not use public transport, to hospital was purchased in April at a cost of £500, and has proved a most useful and essential addition to the ambulance establishment.

One of our ambulances was off the road for a considerable period following an accident while taking a patient to Manchester and on its return into service the opportunity was taken to overhaul another.

The Stalybridge and Dukinfield Divisional Health Committee are only responsible for administering the ambulance service in the Stalybridge part of the division; the Hyde Divisional Health Committee provide the service in Dukinfield. This is by reason of the fact that prior to the 5th of July, 1948, the Stalybridge Corporation administered their own ambulance service but Dukinfield was serviced by the Hyde Joint Ambulance Committee. With a view to eliminating divided responsibility for this service within the Division and in the interests of economy and efficiency it was decided to seek a meeting with the ambulance Subcommittee of the Hyde Divisional Health Committee with the object of the Stalybridge and Dukinfield Divisional Health Committee assuming responsibility for the administration of the ambulance service in the Dukinfield part of the Division but the County Health Committee decided that representatives of each Divisional Health Committee should meet under an independent chairman. This meeting was held at Hyde in November and the result and the decisions arising out of that joint meeting will be referred to in our next Annual Report.

The present establishment of ambulances, cars and staff in the Division during the year was as follows :—

| | | |
|----------|---|----------------------------|
| Vehicles | - | 3 Ambulances. |
| | | 1 Sitting Case Car. |
| Staff | - | 1 Supervisor. |
| | | 2 Attendants. |
| | | 6 Drivers. |
| | | 1 Sitting Case Car Driver. |

TABLE C.

| Directly Provided | (1) No. of vehicles | (2) Total No. Journeys | (3) Total No. Patients carried | (4) No. of Accident and Emergency Journeys inc. in col. 3. | (5) Total Mileage |
|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------|
| Ambulance | 3 | * (7)1935 | * (7)3601 | * (5)157 | * (81)19548 |
| Cars | 1 (16/5/49) | 358 | 744 | — | 7504 |

* Passengers (included in total) picked up outside the administrative County other than same day returning out-patients.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE.

The main work in this section of the National Health Service Act has been (a) the provision of nursing equipment which can be had on loan for patients who are being nursed at home, and (b) devoted to the problem of those patients suffering from Tuberculosis.

A certain amount of equipment had to be purchased and two depots were set up - one at the Ambulance Depot, Stalybridge, and the other at the office of the Authorised Officer in Russell Street, Dukinfield. This equipment is in addition to that held by the District Nurses and is issued out on loan on payment of a small deposit or on payment of weekly subscriptions. With the knowledge of the existence of these facilities the demands by the public have gradually increased to such an extent that it has been found necessary to augment the original stocks.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

This service was begun in the Division in March when three whole-time Home Helps were appointed. The work has grown considerably since that date with the result that it was found necessary to increase the staff to four full-time Helps and seven part-time Helps; the latter work on a casual basis. While the prior call on the service is for mothers with children who are confined or sick at home we are finding that a large percentage of the cases (55%) dealt with are chronic sick, sickness cases and aged people. This state of affairs will probably continue as long as the shortage of hospital beds and Part III Accommodation for these cases continues.

Total cases attended 1/3/49 — 31/12/49 :—

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Maternity Cases | 15 |
| Sick and Nursing mothers | 5 |
| Aged People | 2 |
| Sickness Cases | 11 |
| Chronic sick | 13 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 46 |
| | <hr/> |

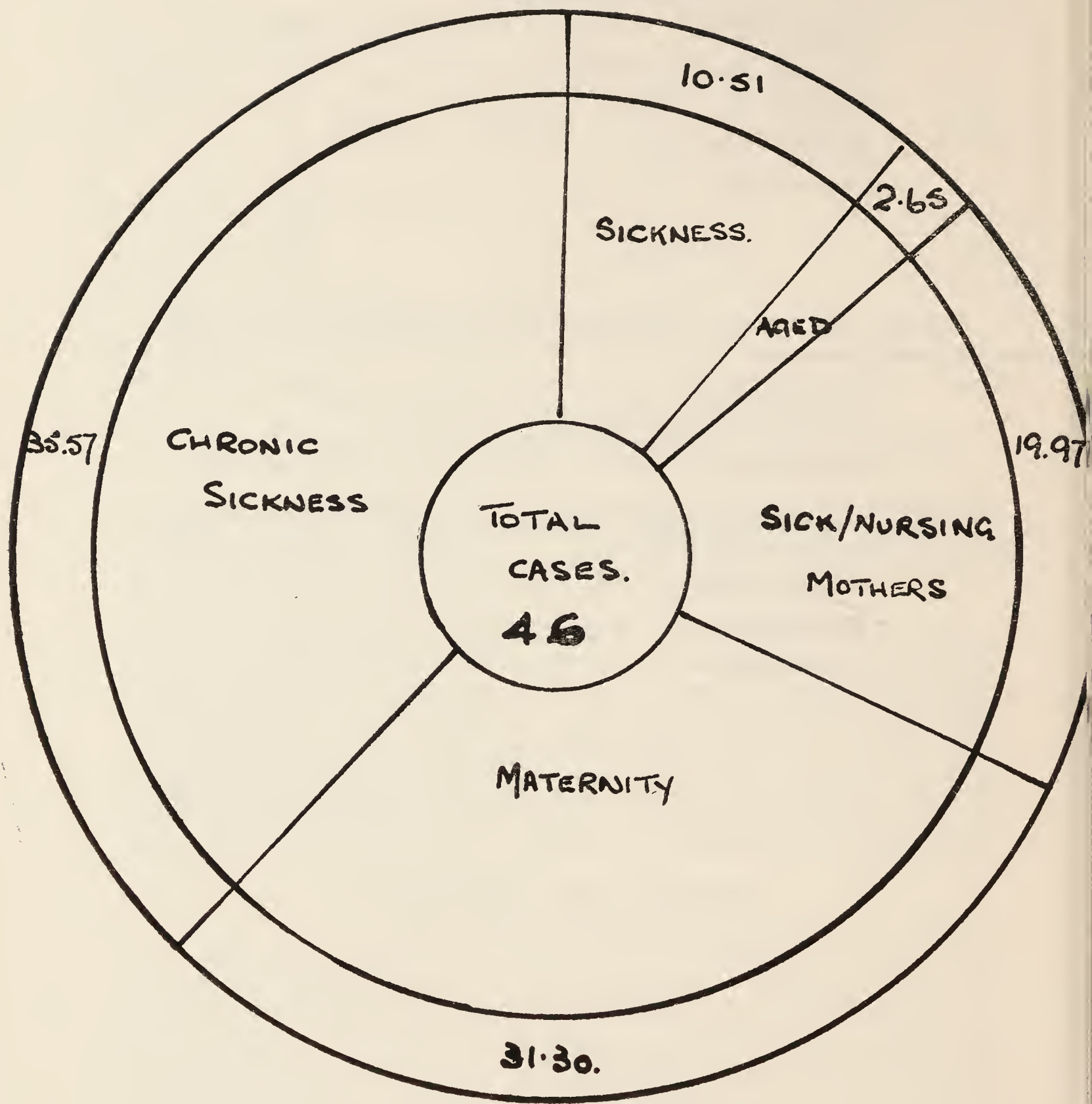
Of the total cases the following were attended on a full time basis of 44 hours per week :—

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| Maternity Cases | 15 |
| Sick and Nursing Mothers | 5 |
| Sickness case | 1 |

The remaining cases were attended on a part-time basis of from 20 to 24 hours per week thus :—

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Sickness Cases | 10 |
| Aged Persons | 2 |
| Chronic Cases | 13 |

CHART. I.



PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL. TIME DEVOTED
TO THE VARIOUS TYPES OF
CASES 1ST. MARCH - 31ST DECEMBER
1949.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1949.



To the Chairman and Members of
the Public Health Committee.
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my third Annual Report on the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector's section of the Public Health Department.

A real effort has been made to bring about improvements in food preparation premises, details of which are given in the Report. To achieve this 569 visits were made to food premises during the year.

In spite of the slump in waste paper prices, salvage income again showed an increase, from £2,227 in 1948, to £2,243 in 1949, and the weight of salvage collected, increased by 26 tons.

I would like to place on record my appreciation of the help received from the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, Councillor A. Allen the members of the Public Health Committee and the staff and employees of the Public Health and Cleansing Departments.

Your obedient servant,

J. NORRIS,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

July, 1950

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT DEFECTS.

6 prosecutions were taken during the year and abatement orders were granted by the Magistrates in each case.

39 formal and 436 informal notices dealing with 1470 defects were served.

22 formal and 94 informal notices requiring the provision of 172 ashbins were served. 1 ashbin was supplied in default of formal notice. 472 ashbins were sold by the department as against 675 in 1949. It is still the policy of the Council to serve notice on the owners of property for the renewal of ashbins. The Council have considered making ashbin renewal a charge against General Rate, but have so far not put this scheme into operation.

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

7 houses have been represented as unfit for human habitation. 1 of the 7 houses was subject to the Closing Order and the other 6 to Demolition Orders. 4 of the 6 houses subject to the Demolition Orders have been demolished and the other 2 are in the course of demolition.

Owing to the delay in commencing the programme of Slum Clearance it has again been the policy of the department to deal only with urgent defects in sub-standard property. Whilst this procedure is a means of keeping the property habitable, it is hoped that, in the not too distant future, a start can be made in clearing this type of house.

VISITS.

| | 1948 | 1949 |
|---|------|------|
| Inspection of Houses | 1466 | 1352 |
| „ Drains, closets, etc. ... | 405 | 433 |
| „ Ashbins ... | 14 | — |
| „ Offensive Accumulations ... | 5 | 48 |
| „ Farms, Dairies, Milkshops ... | 54 | 63 |
| „ Factories ... | 167 | 44 |
| „ Offensive Trades ... | 8 | 30 |
| „ Food Premises ... | 185 | 569 |
| Visits to Slaughterhouse ... | 189 | 263 |
| „ Tip ... | 87 | 142 |
| „ regarding C.D.A. ... | 29 | 29 |
| „ Infectious Disease cases ... | 75 | 59 |
| „ Houses-let-in-Lodgings and Common Lodging Houses ... | 6 | 7 |
| „ Shops ... | 2 | 107 |
| Smoke Observations ... | 156 | 55 |

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|
| Milk Samples | 79 | 101 |
| Water Samples | 7 | 6 |
| Ice Cream Samples | 71 | 53 |
| Rodent Control | 1276 | 1397 |
| Interviews | 694 | 710 |
| Miscellaneous | 485 | 337 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 5460 | 5805 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is one registered Common Lodging House, and two Houses Let in Lodgings. Visits were made to these premises and the premises were found to be in reasonable condition.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS INSPECTION.

The whole of the meat inspection at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse at Stalybridge was carried out by Stalybridge meat inspectors until September. On the 19th September the area covered by the Slaughterhouse was extended to include the Borough of Glossop and an arrangement was made with the meat inspector employed by the Glossop Corporation to be responsible for meat inspection at the Stalybridge Slaughterhouse on rota, for one week in three. This arrangement is still in operation and is working very satisfactorily.

The details of carcasses inspected and meat condemned in the following table refers only to the work carried out by Stalybridge meat inspectors.

| CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED. | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------|------|
| | Cattle excluding Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
| Number Killed | 825 | 715 | 143 | 6019 | 2 |
| Number Inspected..... | 825 | 715 | 143 | 6019 | 2 |
| ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | — | 3 | 1 | 10 | — |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 333 | 167 | 3 | 510 | — |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis | 40.35 | 23.78 | 2.80 | 8.64 | — |
| TUBERCULOSIS ONLY | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | 6 | 14 | — | — | — |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 181 | 381 | 1 | 5 | — |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis | 22.67 | 55.25 | 0.70 | 0.08 | — |

The approximate weight of meat and offals condemned by Stalybridge Meat Inspectors is as follows :—

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | 1948. | 1949. |
| Tubercular | 46385 lbs. | 35853 lbs. |
| Non-tubercular | 10135 lbs. | 17848 lbs. |
| | <u>56520 lbs.</u> | <u>53701 lbs.</u> |

Details of meat and offals condemned are as follows :

| | | |
|-------------------------|------|-------|
| | 1948 | 1949. |
| Whole carcase | 61 | 34 |
| Part carcase | 45 | 88 |
| Heads and Tongues | 218 | 240 |
| Lungs | 470 | 856 |
| Diaphragms | 100 | 187 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|------|
| Hearts | 77 | 73 |
| Livers | 718 | 1019 |
| Part Livers | — | 332 |
| Stomachs | 71 | 88 |
| Mesenteries and Intestines | 152 | 208 |
| Spleens | 99 | 171 |
| Kidneys | 25 | 52 |
| Plucks (Sheep) | 16 | 144 |
| Tails | 25 | 11 |
| Udders | 138 | 160 |

In addition, the following has been condemned :—

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 112 tins Meat | 18 lbs. Sweepfat |
| 367 „ Vegetables | 3¾ „ Cheese |
| 108 „ Soup and Broth | 28 „ Choc. o' Nuts |
| 79 „ Fish | 15½ „ Figs |
| 123 „ Fruit | 27 „ Fish |
| 315 „ Milk | 56 „ Beef Dripping |
| 22 „ Marmalade | 75½ „ Corned Beef |
| 13 „ Jam | 1½ cwts Seed Potatoes |
| 8 „ Fruit Juice | 2 „ Udders |
| 91 „ Puddings | 2 boxes Sultanas |
| 1 „ Puree | 6 pkts. Choc. Cup |
| 1 „ Syrup | 37 „ Puddings |
| 1 „ Suet | 13 „ Malted Milk |
| 5 „ Malt Cup | 26 „ Table dessert |
| 11 jars Marmalade | 34 „ Choc. spread |
| 1 „ Ginger | 15 „ Rusks |
| 96 bottles Salad Cream | 49 doz. and 19 pkts. Sweepfat |

FOOD PREMISES.

569 visits were made to food premises during the year as against 185 in 1948. The following is a list of visits made to different types of food premises during the year :—

| | |
|---|-----|
| Butchers Shops | 37 |
| Bakehouses | 78 |
| Cafes and Canteens | 53 |
| Fried Fish Shops | 114 |
| Fishmongers' Shops | 41 |
| Ice Cream Manufacturing and Storage | 94 |
| Other food premises | 152 |

During the year the whole of the Fried Fish Shops in the town were surveyed and an effort was made to bring all premises, including the room where fish and potatoes are prepared, up to a good standard. The majority of the proprietors co-operated very well indeed and so far about 80% of the shops have been brought up to standard.

ICE CREAM.

During the year the Council adopted 3 Codes of Practice, relative to the manufacture, storage, and sale of ice cream.

Code 1.—Dealing with premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream.

Code 2.—Dealing with premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream.

Code 3.—Dealing with vans used for the retail of ice cream.

Stalybridge is particularly fortunate in having a Local Act which requires all hawkers to be licensed by the Local Authority. It is now the practice that no hawker's licence is granted to any dealer in ice cream until his van complies with the Code of Practice, and a real improvement has been made in the standard of van used for this purpose.

32 Methylene Blue samples were taken during the year, the results were graded as follows : —

| | | Manufactured | |
|---------|--------|--------------|-----------------|
| | | In Borough | Outside Borough |
| Grade 1 | | 5 | 10 |
| „ 2 | | 4 | 3 |
| „ 3 | | 2 | 5 |
| „ 4 | | 1 | 2 |

All unsatisfactory samples were followed up and copies of sample results were forwarded to Local Authorities in whose area the outside manufacturers were producing.

FARMS.

On the 1st October supervision of milk production was transferred from Local Authorities to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. During the first 9 months of the year efforts were made to carry on the work of the previous years in improving the conditions of the farms,

and at the end of September a number of improvements to buildings were in hand, but unfortunately, contact with the owners had to be broken off owing to the change in administration.

Details of improvements to farms during the first 9 months of 1949 were as follows :—

Burnhousefold Farm—Dairy floor re-laid. New windows fitted to dairy and existing doorway between dairy and stable bricked up.

Hill Top Farm—Dairy and house wall demolished and completely re-built. New gutters and rainwater pipes fitted to cowsheds.

Sun Green Farm—Cart shed converted into cowshed thus doing away with the necessity for using the dilapidated cowshed previously “condemned” by this Authority.

Staley Hall Farm—Extensive repairs carried out to main shippon roof including new ventilators.

Discussions were taking place with the owners of the farms for the following improvements :—

Kershaw Hey Farm—Representatives of the owners and a Contractor were met at the farm and final arrangements were made for a new dairy to be erected and the present cowshed extended.

Lower Harpley Farm—Discussions were held with the owner regarding improvements to the drainage at this farm.

Fold Farm—Visits to this farm were made with an Assistant County Sanitary Officer with reference to necessary alterations required to bring it up to the standard of an Accredited Farm.

Higher Heyrod Farm—Considerable alterations to the drainage system in progress.

Details of samples taken during the year and comparison with the years 1946-7-8 are noted below :—

| <u>Methylene Blue</u> | Producers in Borough. | | Producers outside Borough. | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------|----------------------------|----------|
| | Satis. | Unsatis. | Satis. | Unsatis. |
| 1946 | 17 | — | 6 | — |
| 1947 | 19 | 1 | 8 | 1 |
| 1948 | 27 | — | 5 | — |
| 1949 | 31 | 3 | 13 | 6 |
| <u>B. Coli.</u> | | | | |
| 1946 | 10 | 7 | 3 | 4 |
| 1947 | 17 | 3 | 7 | 2 |
| 1948 | 27 | — | 5 | — |
| 1949 | 19 | 6 | 11 | — |
| <u>B. Tuberculosis.</u> | | | | |
| 1946 | 17 | — | 7 | — |
| 1947 | 15 | 1 | 9 | — |
| 1948 | 21 | — | 4 | — |
| 1949 | 25 | 3 | 16 | — |

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

The following licences were issued under the above Regulations during the year.

SUPPLEMENTARY LICENCES.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Pasteurised | 3 |
| Sterilised | 2 |
| Tuberculin Tested | 3 |

DEALERS' LICENCES.

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| Pasteurised | 12 |
| Sterilised | 95 |
| Tuberculin Tested | 16 |

MILK DISTRIBUTORS.

160.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

53 smoke observations were taken during the year. 3 of the observations were of a chimney situated in an adjoining Borough, and the 3 observations greatly exceeded the time allowed for dense smoke. Details have been forwarded to the Council of the Borough concerned. Only 6% of the observations taken of the chimneys within the Borough exceeded the time allowed for dense smoke, as against 7% in 1948 and 18.6% in 1947.

During the Summer a short course of lectures in Boiler House Practice, was arranged at the Stalybridge Technical School, in conjunction with the Local Education Authority. The number of enrolments of Engineers and Boiler Fire-Men, employed by firms in Stalybridge and the adjoining Authorities, was so great that the class had to be duplicated. 42 persons enrolled of which 27 were employed by firms in Stalybridge. The course served a very useful purpose and the co-operation of the management and the employees of the firms taking part was very much appreciated.

DISINFECTION.

2 houses were fumigated. 24 beds, 84 blankets, 53 pillows and bolsters and 93 other articles were disinfected.

WASTE WATER CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

A grant of £8 or half the cost of conversion is made to owners of property, wishing to convert Waste Water Closets. 19 applications for grants were received during the year making a total of 90 since the scheme was commenced in 1947.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Rodent Operator made 1337 visits during the year, and assisted employees of the Borough Surveyor's Department in carrying out two sewer treatments.

154 new infestations were reported and successfully dealt with.

25 Annual Contracts were in force and the total income from the contracts amounted to £88.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

An existing old stone drain in Hollins Street, between High Street and Booth Street, was reconstructed with earthenware pipes.

26 drains, 30 W.W.C's, 10 fresh W.C's and 17 waste water gullies have been opened by Corporation employees during the year.

DISINFESTATION.

Insecticide containing D.D.T. is used for disinfestation and 22 houses involving 79 rooms have been treated by this method.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

138 visits to bakehouses and other factories have been made during the year as against 167 in 1948. 1 informal notice has been served and complied with.

INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

| Premises | No. on Re- gister | Number of | | Occupiers Prosecuted |
|--|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| | | Inspec- tions | Written Notices | |
| Factories without Mechanical Power | 36 | 17 | — | — |
| Factories with Mechanical Power .. | 148 | 121 | 1 | — |
| Other Premises under the Act (in- cluding works of building and en- gineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) .. | — | — | — | — |
| | 184 | 138 | 1 | — |

2.—Defects found.

| Particulars | Number of Defects | | | Number of defects in respect of which prosecu- tions were instituted |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|----------------------------------|--|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred to H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) .. | 2 | 2 | — | — |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | — | — | — | — |
| Inadequate ventilating (S.4) .. | — | — | — | — |
| Ineffective draining of floors (S.6) | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary conveniences — | | | | |
| Insufficient | — | — | — | — |
| Unsuitable or defective .. | 5 | 5 | — | — |
| Not separate for sexes .. | — | — | — | — |
| Other offences | — | — | — | — |
| | 7 | 7 | — | — |

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

2 buildings are now used for the trade of tripe boiling (an increase of 1 on the 1948 figures), 2 buildings are used for Marine Stores and for the business of Rag and Bone dealing. Both tripe boiling premises have been re-conditioned and are in a reasonably satisfactory condition.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

COLLECTION.

| | 1948 | 1949 |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Ashbins emptied | 298,249 | 308,691 |
| Loads of refuse removed | 4,021 | 4,352 |
| | tons cwts. | tons cwts. |
| Average weight per load | 2 5 ½ | 2 4 ½ |
| Approx. weight of refuse removed | 9,098 tons. | 9,683 tons. |

DISPOSAL.

During the year the Glent Tip was completed and was passed over to the Open Spaces Committee to be used for playing fields.

The extension to the Stalybridge Celtic Football Club, Car Park was also completed and has considerably increased the amount of parking space available.

The number of loads tipped is as follows :—

| | |
|------------|--------------|
| Glent Tip. | Brushes Tip. |
| Loads | Loads |
| 1126 | 2379 |

954 loads of covering material were used.

During the year prosecutions were taken against a number of children setting fire and disturbing the surface of the Glent and Brushes Tips. Convictions were obtained in each case and considerable publicity obtained in the local press. This, however, did much to prevent further interference with the tips and further cases are pending.

An order has been placed for a permanent Mess Room, to be constructed at the Brushes Tip. This will include washing and cooking facilities and W.C. accommodation. This new building will be a great improvement on the previous inadequate wooden structure.

SALVAGE.

A further increase in the income received from the sale of salvage was recorded during the year. The gross income rose from £2,227 in 1948 to £2,245 in 1949.

Comparative figures are as follows :—

| <u>1948</u> | Weight | | Income |
|----------------------|-----------|----------|-------------------------|
| | T | C | £ |
| Paper | 179 | 18 | 1200 (includes subsidy) |
| Kitchen Waste | 332 | 19 | 791 „ |
| Metal | 16 | 16 | 56 |
| Bottles | 25 | 7 | 115 |
| Textiles | 1 | 17 | 43 |
| Sundries | 4 | 16 | 22 |
| | <hr/> 561 | <hr/> 12 | <hr/> £2227 |

| <u>1949.</u> | Weight | | Income |
|----------------------|-----------|---------|-------------------------|
| | T. | C | £ |
| Paper | 181 | 7 | 1181 (includes subsidy) |
| Kitchen Waste | 363 | 7 | 928 „ |
| Metal | 20 | 10 | 74 |
| Bottles | 10 | 19 | 31 |
| Textiles | | 15 | 15 |
| Sundries | | 9 | 14 |
| | <hr/> 577 | <hr/> 7 | <hr/> £2243 |

225 loads of kitchen waste were collected.

In view of the slump in waste paper prices the salvage figures can be considered very satisfactory. Stalybridge is very fortunate in having a Paper Mill in the town and has been able to dispose of all waste paper collected, at an economic price.

Kitchen waste collection figures are the highest obtained and during the year a prosecution was taken against 2 youths found pilfering from communal kitchen waste bins. Kitchen waste is collected from approximately 400 communal bins and 177 household containers. The Household container system has not been extended in view of the high cost of collection.

